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FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES  
REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

ELIMINATION REPORT  
FOR  
FORMER MAX ZUCKERMAN COMPANIES  
IN ILLINOIS and MARYLAND

04/15/94

U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Environmental Restoration

Elimination Report  
Former Max Zuckerman Companies

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## INTRODUCTION

The Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Restoration, has reviewed the past activities of the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) at the former Max Zuckerman & Sons companies in Illinois and Maryland. DOE has determined that the conditions at these sites have little or no potential for contamination. Therefore, these sites should be eliminated from consideration under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

The information in this report is from documents (Berger, 1990; Williams, 1990) that support the determination that the radiological conditions at the former Max Zuckerman company sites are in compliance with the DOE radiological guidelines (DOE, 1987) which apply to these sites. These documents provide assurance that use of these sites will not result in any measurable radiological hazard to site occupants or the general public.

## BACKGROUND

The Max Zuckerman companies included various site names:

- Max Zuckerman & Sons Company (primary reference)
- Max Zuckerman & Sons Metals Company
- Max Zuckerman and Martin Metals Company
- Max Zuckerman and Sons Plant
- Maryland Alloys Corporation

Their locations were in Maryland and Illinois:

- 5245 Fairlawn Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland
- 12 Music Fair Road, Owings Mills, Maryland
- 1925 North Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

## Site Function

Max Zuckerman & Sons was a Baltimore-area scrap metals broker that arranged purchases of materials for third parties from sources that included AEC facilities at Fernald, Ohio; Richland, Washington; and Aiken, South Carolina.

In 1961 through 1963, production orders by the AEC for the Feed Materials Production Center at Fernald indicated shipments of various quantities of metal oxide (which were stored in the silos and/or tanks in the Plant 1 area at Fernald) were to be made to Max Zuckerman & Sons. Although sample-size shipments may have been made to each of the three addresses, larger delivery

quantities were not made. The deliveries and the sample quantities were allegedly shipped to foreign purchasers, most likely in Canada.

### Site Description

Three locations associated with the Max Zuckerman companies in Maryland and Illinois are described below:

- The Baltimore location is a single-story warehouse structure. The space Zuckerman occupied was in the middle bay (or section) of the cinder-block building. The building has about six bays. The bay occupied by Zuckerman is approximately 30 feet wide and 75 feet deep. The front is on Fairlawn Avenue; the back door opens to an alley. The location appears to be too small for receiving and processing any of the large metal oxide shipments. The location is urban industrial and the present occupant is Modern Laminates (custom cabinets).
- The Owings Mills location is a stand-alone structure composed of two parts, (both block with brick veneer); A single-story office-type building facing Music Fair Road and a taller single-story warehouse-type building roughly 100 by 200 feet in dimension. On top of the structure is a small section of the remains of ventilation/exhaust ducts. The warehouse backs to a rail right of way which is elevated above the grade of the building and probably does not provide shipping/receiving access. The location is in an industrial park and the present occupant is the Holstein Paper Company.
- The Chicago location used by Zuckerman is a structure adjacent to an alley way (one on the side and one in the back). The building and others around it are 1-1/2 story structures made of brick. The limited size of the structure would make it unlikely that large quantities of materials could have been processed. The location is generally residential although the past use may have included a pickle factory and a chemical factory. The site today is used for condominiums.

Sometime before 1955 to mid 1961, Max Zuckerman & Sons owned the Fairlawn Avenue address in Baltimore. In 1961, Max Zuckerman & Sons moved into the Owings Mill address. By 1983 or 1984, the business was liquidated. It is speculated that Max Zuckerman & Sons never was located at the Chicago address despite a production order record to the contrary. However, the Zuckermans may have used it as a third-party mailing address in the early 1960's because of their association with Atlantic Chemical and Metals, that may have occupied this address (Williams 1990).

### Radiological History and Status

No evidence was found to confirm that bulk shipments of radioactive materials actually went to any of these addresses. It is likely that the bulk shipments went out of the country. The Fernald materials involved pitchblende residues of metal oxides. Only sample-size quantities allegedly went to any of these addresses.

No access rights were sought to enter the properties; however, a walk-by visit was made to each of the three sites to make a visual and cursory radiological inspection. No detectable radiation levels above those naturally occurring in brick were observed at any of the sites. (Berger, 1990; Williams, 1990).

DOE contacts with the NRC were made in 1990. NRC records indicate that the Max Zuckerman companies had various source-materials and export licenses during the 1960's. However, none of these specifically identify large quantities of metal oxides shipments to Canada.

### ELIMINATION ANALYSIS

Based on the information presented above, DOE has determined that there is little to no potential for radiological exposure beyond that associated with natural background radiation; therefore, no additional investigations are necessary. Based on this finding, the former Max Zuckerman companies sites in Illinois and Maryland are eliminated from the list of considered sites under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

### REFERENCES

1. DOE, 1987: Guidelines for Residual Radioactive Material at Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program Sites. Revision 2. U.S. Department of Energy, March 1987.
2. Williams, Alexander, 1990: Notes from Meeting with Mr. Martin Zuckerman. DOE, June 20, 1990.
3. Berger, James, 1990: Scoping Visit to Former Zuckerman Site N. Kenmore Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Correspondence from Oak Ridge Associated University to J. Wagoner, DOE, June 19, 1990.